

CHARLESTON

FIRE DEPARTMENT



Nassau Street Fire: Update

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Charleston, SC (January 6, 2014): City of Charleston Fire Department, North Charleston Fire Department, City of Charleston Police and Charleston County EMS units responded yesterday, January 5, 2014 to a reported structure fire at a two story triplex residence on Nassau Street located between Line and Columbus Streets.

Units were dispatched to the call at 5:57 PM and the first CFD unit arrived on scene at 6:00 PM. CFD units reported smoke visible from the structure and commenced a rapid interior fire attack. Firefighting crews searched the residence and extinguished a fire on a first floor unit. Crews on scene reported the fire to be out at 6:13 PM. No injuries were reported and the American Red Cross was called to assist the residents.

The City of Charleston Fire Department Fire Marshal Division responded to investigate the fire. Investigators were able to determine the fire originated near a couch in the family room of a first floor unit. Investigators determined the couch ignited due to unattended candles left near the couch.

Neighbors were alerted to the fire by interconnected smoke alarms in the units. The smoke alarms were able to quickly detect the fire and alert neighbors. With the help of these alarms the fire was contained to one room and no one was injured.

According to the United States Fire Administration, on average 42 home candle fires are reported every day. The Charleston Fire Department would like to remind citizens of these safety tips:

- Consider using battery-operated or electric flameless candles, which can look, smell and feel like real candles – without the flame.
- Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that can catch on fire.
- Extinguish candles after use, before going to bed, or any prolonged absence from where the candle is located.
- Keep candles, matches, and lighters out of the reach of children.
- Check batteries monthly on smoke alarms. Install smoke alarms inside and outside of each sleeping area and on each level of your residence.

For more information please contact Community Educator Ryan Kunitzer at (843) 958-6401 or by email at kunitzerr@charleston-sc.gov.

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